From: Derek Young
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 2:33pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The biggest problem with this settlement is that is is taking so long. There is a lot of things Microsoft has done that is totally wrong. I could fill an entire email with things I find to be anti-competitive. Microsoft will use the defence that they just want to innovate, but I can promise you they have never ever innovated. Everything they have they stole or purchased from someone else.

At this rate, by the time the courts go through the thousands of cases there will be no chance for any competition.

Here is my suggestion that would remedy this solution. My experience is the fact I have over 15 years of programming experience. The reason Microsoft is a monopoly is that if you go to the store, all software there is for Windows. Even if a competitor made a better Opearting System it would fail because there would be no programs the new Operating System could run.

Here is the key tho, Microsoft ripped off Sun Microsystems and created a CLR (Command Language Runtime) to run Windows applications in. It opeartes almost exactly like the Java Virtual Machine. I think the reason Microsoft has gone this way is so they can make a monopoly in the embedded device market, or possibly they are paving the way so that windows can move to a processor besides the Intel x86 platform.

If Microsoft was forced to make a fully stand alone open source CLR, and then was forced to implement that CLR on other operating systems such as Linux, OS/2, FreeBSD, etc then those other operating systems could run all modern windows applications that used the CLR.

The reason the CLR implemention would have to be open sourced is because I would not trust Microsoft to release it closed source. How could I trust they would't put a worm or backdoor in it? Even worse, I doubt they would really support it that well. If it was open source we could fix bugs ourself as time went on.

This seems fair. the CLR has NOTHING to do with Windows operating system. Forcing them to open up the CLR would give us nothing in the internals of the Windows OPERATING SYSTEM. This would simply make it so people could go to the store, purchase a program and run it on almost any computer with any operating system.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Derek Young
bleach@orcacom.net